

REMARKS

Claims 1-28 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended for reasons related to patentability over the applied references. Reconsideration of the application in view of the amendment and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The attached Appendix includes marked-up copies of each rewritten claim (37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii)).

I. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Antoniadis (U.S. Patent No. 5,948,552); and claims 1, 5, 27 and 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Hosokawa (U.S. Patent No. 5,121,029). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

In particular, neither Antoniadis nor Hosokawa, individually or in combination, disclose or suggest an organic light emitting device wherein the organic light emitting device is in an annealed condition with heating and cooling rates from 0.5°C/min to 20°C/min.

Antoniadis discloses an organic electroluminescence device having a substrate, a first conductive layer on the substrate, an electron-transporting and light-emitting layer, and a second conductive layer adjacent the electron-transporting and light-emitting layer and remote from the first conductive layer, and a hole-conducting layer sandwiched between the first conductive layer and the electron-transporting and light-emitting layer. See abstract of Antoniadis. Antoniadis further discloses that a post-annealing method is performed on the device following deposition of the cathode layer in a dry nitrogen atmosphere at an elevated temperature. See, for example, col. 7, lines 60-63.

Hosokawa discloses an electroluminescence device with an excellent film quality which can be easily produced. Hosokawa further discloses that the electroluminescence device is annealed at 70°C for thirty seconds. See, for example, col. 61, lines 50-53.

On the contrary, neither Antoniadis nor Hosokawa, disclose or suggest the organic light-emitting device is in an annealed condition with heating and cooling rates of 0.5°C/min to 20°C/min.

Thus, because both Antoniadis and Hosokawa fail to disclose each and every feature of the claimed invention, independent claim 1 defines patentable subject matter. Claims 5, 27 and 28 depend from independent claim 1, and thus also define patentable subject matter. Accordingly, Applicants request that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102 be withdrawn.

II. Objection Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Epstein (U.S. Patent No. 6,235,414) in view of Shinar (U.S. Patent No. 5,352,906). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

In particular, neither Epstein nor Shinar, individually or in combination, disclose or suggest an organic light-emitting device the organic light-emitting device is in an annealed condition with heating and cooling rates from 0.5°C/min to 20°C/min.

Epstein discloses a color variable light emitting devices which are capable of generating two independent colors even at room temperature. The devices comprise a layer of at least one active electroluminescence polymer. The electroluminescence polymer may be accompanied by one or two redox-mediating polymer layers. The redox polymer layers modify the charge injection and transport properties such the device may be operated under both forward and reverse bias. See, for example, abstract of Epstein. However, Epstein fails to disclose or suggest the organic light emitting device is in an annealed condition with heating and cooling rates from 0.5°C/min to 20°C/min.

Shinar fails to compensate for the deficiencies of Epstein. Shinar discloses a polymer-based light-emitting diodes where annealing is carried out at a temperature and for a period of time to result in a reduction of the EL threshold voltage, i.e., the initial voltage at

which the diode electroluminescences, by at least about 20%. Preferably, the annealing step occurs at a temperature of about 100°C-250°C for every 1-24 hours. See, for example, col. 3, lines 55-62.

However, Shinar fails to disclose the organic light-emitting device is in an annealed condition with heating and cooling rates from 0.5°C/min to 20°C/min.

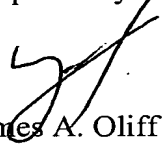
Accordingly, because any combination of the applied references would not have resulted in the claimed invention, Applicants submit that it would not have been obvious to arrive at the claimed invention. Further, Applicants submit that independent claim 1 defines patentable subject matter. Claims 2-28 depend from independent claim 1, and therefore also define patentable subject matter. Accordingly, Applicants request that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) be withdrawn.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-28 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further will be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:
Appendix

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